

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6849
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
UNDERGROUND MINING
Mohite Shri Subodh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal submitted by the Western Coalfields Ltd. for grant of permission for underground mining is pending with the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of mines in which underground operation is still going on;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to give permission for continuation of operation in these mines;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASAR1 NARAYAN RAO):

- (a) and (b) Government approves project proposals of coal companies where capital investment is Rs. 100 crores and more. There is no underground project proposal of Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) pending with the Government for approval.
- (c) There are 44 underground mines in WCL which are in operation as on 1.4.2005.
- (d) to (f) WCL has proposed to operate 40 mines in 2005-06. Name of the underground mines of WCL, which would be in operation in 2005-06, is enclosed in as statement.